

September 18, 2012

Mr. Fatica, Chairman, called to order a Regular Meeting of the Erie County Council at 7:00 p.m. in the Erie County Council Chambers, Erie County Courthouse, Erie, Pennsylvania. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Loll recited a prayer:

Let us pray. Recently we remembered a very tragic attack on our nation where all gave some and some gave all, but none chose to fall. With tears of horror and Disbelief, the greatest of anger and a heart full of sorrow, we again unite to remember 9/11. We will never forget and we never should, those who died and were taken that day. Our deepest respects and thanks are sent to them. To the land of the free and the home of the brave, you did the most and gave your best. We shed a tear as we remember that day with heaven and God you now sleep. Rest in peace. We honor and remember you always. Amen.

Roll Call

The County Clerk called the roll:

Members Present: Mr. Fatica, Chairman
Mr. Giles, Vice Chairman
Mr. Cleaver
Dr. Foust
Mr. Leone
Mrs. Loll

Members Absent: Mr. Beeman

Also Present: Douglas R. Smith, County Clerk
Joseph P. Maloney, Council CPA
Thomas Talarico, Council Solicitor
James Sparber, Director of Finance
Sue Ellen Pasquale, Manager of Accounting

Hearing of the Public

Mark Aleksandrowicz, Lighthouse Street, Erie, spoke regarding a location for the Erie 9/11 Memorial which is dedicated to the memory of the victims of the terrorist attacks which occurred on September 11, 2001. This memorial is also dedicated to the spirit of the heroes, survivors and their families. It has always been the objective to find a visible location. Mr. Grossman suggested the Blasco Library as a possible site. The 9-11 Memorial Committee is asking for Erie County's permission for this memorial to sit on the library property. Mr. Aleksandrowicz unveiled the proposed plans for the memorial.

Michael Day, 526 East 28th Street, Erie, spoke in support of the 9-11 Memorial. He was assigned as a medical technician in New York on September 11, 2001. This event did not affect just New York City. It was an attack on our country. He asked Council to allow this memorial to happen as a reminder to future generations.

Linda Grappi, 115 Mechanic Street, Girard, spoke regarding her experience in New York on September 11, 2001. She asked for Council's support for the Erie 9-11 Memorial at the Blasco Library.

Jorge (last name inaudible), recalled the events in New York City on September 11, 2001 where he worked as a geologist at the Twin Towers. This memorial is a symbol of the American spirit. He asked for Council's support for this memorial.

John Buchna, Lake City, is a volunteer on the 9-11 Committee and CEO of the Downtown Partnership and spoke in support of the 9-11 Memorial. He believes the Blasco Library location makes sense. He urged Council to help make this happen.

Linda Aleksandrowicz, Lighthouse Street, Erie, spoke regarding a local family impacted by the events of September 11, 2001. This memorial will help to remember and honor their loved one.

Minutes

Mr. Giles moved to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2012 meeting. Mr. Leone seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Finance Committee

Mr. Giles reported the Finance Committee met on September 13, 2012 and agreed to place Ordinances 93 and 94 on the agenda for first readings along with the possible adoption of Resolutions 37, 38 and 39.

Mr. Giles also expressed gratitude on the part of County Council for Mr. Smith's and Mrs. Bruno's efforts in providing labels for the Council pictures located in the hallway for years. He explained a photo is taken of Council whenever a change occurs. One of the pictures dates back 30 years and the individuals in that photo were unknown to some people. Mr. Smith and Mrs. Bruno determined the years the pictures were taken, the individuals in the pictures, and had a small plaque made for each detailing the year and names.

Personnel Committee

Mrs. Loll reported the Personnel Committee met immediately following the Finance Meeting and agreed to place Ordinance 95 on the agenda. This is a Children and Youth Services ordinance regarding a job sharing of one position.

Mr. Giles' Report

Mr. Giles reported that he has been invited by the White House to attend a meeting tomorrow of county officials regarding economic development and transportation issues. Secretary LaHood, Secretary of Transportation, will also be in attendance. Mr. Giles secured some information from John Elliott, President and CEO of Economic Development, regarding Erie County's Inland Port Project. He explained this project involves counties in Pennsylvania and Ohio utilizing wood pellets and transferring them to Erie. These pellets are then transported to other countries. This will help create jobs locally and is a partnership between ports working together instead of competing. The Northwest Planning Commission is also involved. A thorough market analysis has already been done. Other countries are interested in this because their air standards are stricter than in the United States.

First Rdgs

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of the following ordinances:

Ordinance Number 93, 2012, "2012 Public Health Fund Budget Revised Expenditures Of \$21,000 For The Public Health Accreditation Grant."

Ordinance Number 94, 2012, "Twenty-Third 2012 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation Of \$20,000 For Return Of A Bond Forfeiture"

Agenda
Amended

Mrs. Loll moved to amend the agenda to include Ordinance Number 95, 2012 as a second reading. Mr. Leone seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

C&Y Elim of
Full-Time Pos &
Creat. Job Sharing

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 95, 2012, "2012 Children & Youth Services Fund Budget Revised Expenditures Of \$252 For The Elimination Of A Full Time

Position And Creation Of Two Job Sharing Positions.” Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

St. Joseph Apts.
Project

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 37, 2012, “Erie County General Authority Not To Exceed \$2,800,000 Tax-Exempt Note (St. Joseph Apartments, Inc. Project).” Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Dr. Foust seconded.

Mr. Giles explained that HANDS, the organization that operates St. Joseph Apartments, is refinancing an existing debt and taking a portion of the remaining funds to improve the windows and make it more energy efficient.

Mr. Fatica called for a vote on the resolution, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Exon. Taxes on
Prop. Owned by
Redev. Auth.

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 38, 2012, “Exoneration Of Taxes On Tax Exempt Properties Owned By The Erie Redevelopment Authority.” Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mr. Cleaver seconded. Mr. Fatica noted that this is contingent on the other approval of the other taxing bodies. He called for a vote on the resolution and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Amend. To Lease
Agrmt Btwn Info.
Transfer & Erie Cnty

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 39, 2012, “Approving An Amendment To The Lease Agreement Between Information Transfer Systems And Erie County.” Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Fatica thanked everyone for attending tonight’s meeting and the public participation.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Ann M. Bruno, Council Secretary
